

# ATTACHMENT

For Item

#01

June 12, 2023

June 15, 2023

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

DISTRIBUTED 6/13/2023

**From:** [Chaundra Passehl Capaci](#)  
**To:** [FGG, Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [Desmond, Jim](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Butterfield as a Park  
**Date:** Monday, June 12, 2023 4:48:34 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Butterfield Trails Ranch becoming a park.

Thank you,  
Chaundra Passehl Capaci

**From:** [Vince Bellino](#)  
**To:** [FGG, Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [Desmond, Jim](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support for Butterfield Trails Ranch  
**Date:** Monday, June 12, 2023 5:24:20 PM

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Hello!

We are so excited to see this park coming to our community! We have moved to Valley Center because of the country charm and open natural spaces left here. We are sad to see the over development happening in California and we want to see natural spaces emphasized more. Especially because the new housing complex across the street "Park Circle" has such small yards.. We hope the kids growing up there will frequent Butterfield.

As native plant landscapers/designers, we really hope you will be using native plants (those that have grown here from the beginning). We do consulting and designs using native plants. Please let us know if we can be of service!

Vincent Bellino  
[\(760\) 215-2837](tel:7602152837)  
[restoringcalifornia.com](http://restoringcalifornia.com)  
C-27 License #1063329

**From:** [Linda Henry-Bonin](#)  
**To:** [FGG, Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Butterf  
**Date:** Monday, June 12, 2023 6:12:45 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Debbie Kieper](#)  
**To:** [FGG, Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [Desmond, Jim](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Butterfields Trails Ranch Park  
**Date:** Monday, June 12, 2023 11:40:51 PM

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I am very much in favor of Butterfield Trails Ranch becoming a park for all to enjoy. I feel that the availability of public open space is very important to the health and wellbeing of people. I respectfully request that the remaining funding needed acquire Butterfields Trail Ranch as a park for Valley Center be included in the upcoming budget.

Many thanks  
**Debbie Kieper**  
Valley Center Resident

**From:** [henkinp@earthlink.net](mailto:henkinp@earthlink.net)  
**To:** [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#); [Vargas, Nora \(BOS\)](#); [Anderson, Joel](#); [Desmond, Jim](#)  
**Cc:** [FGG, Public Comment](#); [Council District 1 - Joe LaCava](#); [Council District 2 - Jennifer Campbell](#); [stephenwhitburn@sandiego.gov](mailto:stephenwhitburn@sandiego.gov); [Council District 4 - Monica Montgomery Steppe](#); [Council District 5 - Marni von Wilpert](#); [Council District 6 - Kent Lee](#); [Council District 7 - Raul Campillo](#); [Council District 8 - Vivian Moreno](#); [Council District 9 - Sean Elo-Rivera](#); [rbailey@coronado.ca.us](mailto:rbailey@coronado.ca.us); [tmartinez@delmar.ca.us](mailto:tmartinez@delmar.ca.us); [bwells@cityofelcajon.us](mailto:bwells@cityofelcajon.us); [tkranz@encinitasca.gov](mailto:tkranz@encinitasca.gov); [dawhite@escondido.org](mailto:dawhite@escondido.org); [paloma.aguirre@imperialbeachca.gov](mailto:paloma.aguirre@imperialbeachca.gov); [rvasquez@lemongrove.ca.gov](mailto:rvasquez@lemongrove.ca.gov); [rmorrison@nationalcityca.gov](mailto:rmorrison@nationalcityca.gov); [esanchez@oceansideca.org](mailto:esanchez@oceansideca.org); [svaus@poway.org](mailto:svaus@poway.org); [rjones@san-marcos.net](mailto:rjones@san-marcos.net); [jminto@cityofsanteeca.gov](mailto:jminto@cityofsanteeca.gov); [lheebner@cosb.org](mailto:lheebner@cosb.org); [jfranklin@cityofvista.com](mailto:jfranklin@cityofvista.com)  
**Subject:** [External] Re: SAN DIEGO THREATENING TO PUSH HOMELESS TO OTHER AREAS NEEDS TO STOP  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 9:25:07 AM

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Sorry, forgot to sign the letter. I had another thought. This ordinance without a plan and the harassment it threatens reminds me of a meme. In one panel, there is a man in a boat in a lake raising his hands and proclaiming "May God strike me if I'm lying." In the other panel, You see God getting his thunderbolt ready, with Gabriel asking Him to add a note to make it a bit stronger "don't do it again."

That's what this does. It makes enforcement a bit more sketchy than it is right now. The homeless (society's castaways) will still be moved around and harassed. It doesn't add anything that will actually solve the problem.

Regards,

Paul Henkin

[henkinp@earthlink.net](mailto:henkinp@earthlink.net)

-----Original Message-----

From: <[henkinp@earthlink.net](mailto:henkinp@earthlink.net)>

Sent: Jun 11, 2023 6:06 PM

To: Supervisor Terra LawsonRemer <[terra.lawson-remmer@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:terra.lawson-remmer@sdcounty.ca.gov)>, Supervisor

Nora Vargas <[nora.vargas@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:nora.vargas@sdcounty.ca.gov)>, Supervisor Joel Anderson

<[joel.anderson@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:joel.anderson@sdcounty.ca.gov)>, Supervisor Jim Desmond

<[jim.desmond@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:jim.desmond@sdcounty.ca.gov)>

Cc: SD Cty Board of Supes <[PublicComment@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:PublicComment@sdcounty.ca.gov)>, Council District 1 - Joe

LaCava <joelacava@sandiego.gov>, Council District 2 - Jennifer Campbell  
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Subject: SAN DIEGO THREATENING TO PUSH HOMELESS TO OTHER AREAS  
NEEDS TO STOP

To whomever it may concern:

The City of San Diego needs to pause and stop moving the homeless  
around from place to place.

What guarantees does the rest of the County have that the homeless  
are not going to move to other and 'safer' cities or areas? THIS  
ORDINANCE IS A THREAT TO THE REST OF THE COUNTY.

The Union Tribune article says "In one of the more controversial  
aspects of the proposed ordinance, camping on certain public  
property would be prohibited 24 hours a day regardless of the  
availability of shelter beds. The prohibition would affect public parks  
and areas near homeless shelters, schools, trolley corridors,  
transportation hubs and waterways.

"That raised another criticism of the proposal, as a homeless person  
could just cross a street and go to an area where people are allowed  
to sleep at night.

""It literally is just going to move people into other zones, and if you're a housed person in a zone not covered by this, you're going to be unhappy," said homeless advocate Michael McConnell.

"While the restriction may push encampments out of East Village because of shelters in the neighborhood, McConnell said people may just move their tents a few blocks away to Barrio Logan and Sherman Heights.

"McConnell also he would pass out maps to show homeless people where they should move their tents if the ordinance passes.

"Concern that the ordinance could push homeless people out of San Diego was hinted at during a Poway City Council on Tuesday when council members passed a similar ordinance regulating encampments.

""The city of San Diego is becoming more aggressive, so we'd expect it to be an increasing problem in Poway," said Poway City Councilmember Brian Pepin."

Again, what guarantees does the rest of the County have that the homeless are not going to move to other and 'safer' cities? THIS ORDINANCE IS A THREAT TO THE REST OF THE COUNTY.

I would also note that the 32% increase in homelessness in San Diego (versus 14 to 22% for the entire County) strongly suggests that San Diego needs a better approach than a 'carrot and stick' mentality.



<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/should-san-diego-ban-homeless-encampments-city-council-decides-tuesday/ar-AA1cp26C?ocid=hpmsn&cvid=c7d4a1b28aa249f89cb1a80fce650ca2&ei=46>

San Diego Union Tribune

## **Should San Diego ban homeless encampments? City Council decides Tuesday**

Story by Gary Warth • 5h ago [6/10/2023]

A proposal to ban homeless encampments from public property in San Diego will be debated this week by elected officials and it is expected to be cheered by some as long overdue and jeered by others as cruel and ineffective.

Submitted by City Councilmember Stephen Whitburn, the proposed ordinance would prohibit people from camping on public property if shelter options are available, but it also would ban camping on certain property, such as public parks, **even if no legal shelters are available.**

**[Illegal under Martin vs. Boise, upheld by the US Supreme Court.]**

The City Council will hold a public hearing on the new rules on Tuesday following weeks of protests against the proposed ban countered by a full-court press by Mayor Todd Gloria, who held press conferences at different locations last week in support of the plan.

Tuesday's hearing also follows the release of two reports that show a surge in unsheltered people in the city of San Diego.

"Neither of these announcements come as good news, and neither come as a surprise to myself or to anyone else who has seen what is happening on our sidewalks, in our parks, alongside our freeways and in our canyons along San Diego River," Gloria said Thursday, the day the reports were released.

Data released Thursday by the San Diego Regional Task Force on Homelessness found a **32 percent increase in the number of unsheltered homeless people in the city of San Diego**, with about 3,300 people living outdoors.

Also on Thursday, a recent count conducted by the Downtown San Diego Partnership found an all-time high of 2,100 people living on sidewalks and in vehicles just in downtown neighborhoods.

While there is little argument that the growing number of encampments in the city is an issue that needs attention, the proposed ban has faced much opposition and did not get overwhelming support when it was discussed by the city's Land Use and Housing Committee in April.

Committee members voted 3-1 to pass the proposal on to the full City Council without a recommendation. **Councilmember Kent Lee cast the only opposing vote and questioned how it could be enforced when the availability of shelter beds was as low as 3 percent at times.**

Lee's concerns were related to the Martin v. Boise court decision that allows cities to cite homeless people for camping on property only if there are adequate shelter beds available.

In the meeting, Councilmember Joe LaCava said he had concerns

about the proposal and requested a comprehensive shelter plan, which also is going before the City Council on Tuesday.

Gloria said the key elements of the plan include expanding shelter types to fit the specific needs of veterans, seniors, youths and other populations, all with wraparound services to provide what he referred to as compassionate, equitable service to each person.

The plan also calls for engaging with community partners like the San Diego Unified School District and others to identify more potential short-term and long-term shelter sites. It also calls for enhancing the existing family reunification program to connect homeless people with family members and friends who can offer support.

But the plan also identifies future challenges, including the goal of adding 600 more shelter beds while also relocating another 930 beds as some shelters close. Among those are the 276-bed Alpha Project shelter on Newton Avenue, scheduled to close in the summer of 2024, and the 324-bed shelter on the first floor of Golden Hall, which is expected to close by October.

[Basically, to make this plan legal under Martin vs. Boise, the City needs 1530 shelter beds.]

Speaking at various locations in support of the ordinance last week, Gloria said it is needed for safety concerns around schools, parks and canyons.

Opponents have held their own events, which sometimes coincided with Gloria's. Protesters tried to drown out a press conference on Wednesday held by Gloria, LaCava, police officers and fire officials in

University City.

On two consecutive Friday evenings, the grassroots group San Diego Housing Emergency Alliance set up lighted signs reading "Housing Now" on the 6th Avenue Interstate 5 overpass in opposition to the proposal.

Whitburn and Gloria have said the proposed ordinance would not result in encampments disappearing overnight, and it would not affect every neighborhood the same.

[Instead of acting NOW, in the months before the shelters actually close, we need comprehensive plan, not a series of bandaid solutions.]

In many areas, homeless people still would be allowed on sidewalks between 9 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. as part of a settlement filed several years ago.

[So if you're afraid to walk down the street, don't go out late? Who's punishing whom?]

In one of the more controversial aspects of the proposed ordinance, camping on certain public property would be prohibited 24 hours a day regardless of the availability of shelter beds. The prohibition would affect public parks and areas near homeless shelters, schools, trolley corridors, transportation hubs and waterways.

That raised another criticism of the proposal, as a homeless person could just cross a street and go to an area where people are allowed to sleep at night.

"It literally is just going to move people into other zones, and if you're a housed person in a zone not covered by this, you're going to be unhappy," said homeless advocate Michael McConnell.

While the restriction may push encampments out of East Village because of shelters in the neighborhood, McConnell said people may just move their tents a few blocks away to Barrio Logan and Sherman Heights.

McConnell also he would pass out maps to show homeless people where they should move their tents if the ordinance passes.

Concern that the ordinance could push homeless people out of San Diego was hinted at during a Poway City Council on Tuesday when council members passed a similar ordinance regulating encampments.

"The city of San Diego is becoming more aggressive, so we'd expect it to be an increasing problem in Poway," said Poway City Councilmember Brian Pepin.

Whitburn said he expects the ordinance will be effective in part because more shelter options are being created. By July 1, a new safe sleeping area is scheduled to open in a parking lot at 20th and B streets to accommodate about 100 people. The open site will be an alternative to indoor shelters, which many people living on the street often decline.

A second safe sleeping site that will accommodate about 400 people

is expected to open in the fall at Parking Lot O near the Naval Medical Center.

[500 beds when 1530 are expected to be needed next year?]

Whitburn, whose district includes downtown San Diego, said there is a pressing need to address the hundreds of encampments that are blocking city sidewalks, which could create a liability for the city.

Whitburn noted that Portland, Ore., recently agreed to spend millions of dollars to clear tents from sidewalks to settle a lawsuit filed by disabled people who use wheelchairs.

"I think what happened in Portland is very relevant to the situation we have in San Diego," he said.

Gloria said the city also has an obligation to residents who deserve to have clean sidewalks.

"Taxpayers in this city will be spending over \$200 million on homelessness in the year ahead if the budget is passed as proposed," he said. "I think in exchange for that, it is absolutely reasonable to be able to expect to walk on the sidewalk without having to go around and step in the middle of the street."

Questions about the legality of the proposed ordinance already are being raised.

Attorney Scott Dreher, who has represented homeless people in lawsuits that led to the settlement allowing people to sleep on sidewalks at night, said he is looking into the ordinance.

The proposed ordinance also has gotten the attention of Will Knight, decriminalization program director for the Washington, D.C.-based National Homelessness Law Center.

Knight said the proposed ordinance appears to follow the Martin v. Boise agreement on the surface by enforcing a camping ban only when there are adequate shelter alternatives available.

The part of the ordinance that would prohibit camping in certain areas even when no shelter beds are available is problematic, he said.

"There aren't exceptions," he said. "Martin v. Boise does not say they can do what they're trying to do."

Knight said a reasonable interpretation of the ruling would find it acceptable to have an absolute ban on camping in certain areas because of legitimate public safety concerns. As examples, he cited cities that banned camping under a railroad viaduct and in wildlife areas. He also had no problem with Santee's ban on camping near a river that could be polluted by runoff from encampments.

Knight said San Diego is not citing legitimate public safety concerns in banning camping near schools, parks and other places, but rather is just trying to hide homeless people from the sight of children and people in parks.

Whitburn and Gloria said the city attorney's office has looked at the Martin v. Boise decision and has found the ordinance in compliance.

[What do you expect from someone in the same organization?]

"They are confident that in cases of public health and safety, this will be allowable," Whitburn said.

Gloria also said the ordinance will follow the ruling because the city has the right to place restrictions on the use of specific areas.

McConnell said he does not think the ordinance would be effective in the long run because he already has seen the city crack down on encampments, only to eventually back off and have the encampments return.

"I've seen it all before," he said, recalling how a large encampment that once was on Sports Arena Boulevard had been reduced to just a few tents, but lately has grown to about 30.

McConnell also said he sees the mayor's focus on enforcement as a change of heart in someone who had said he would take a more compassionate approach to homelessness than the past administration.

Gloria, however, repeatedly has emphasized that his approach is compassionate because it will lead to people getting shelter and services rather than allowing them to stay on the street where they face threats of violence, vehicle accidents, sex trafficking and drug dealers.

[BTW, you don't have to be on the street anymore to face threats of violence, vehicle accidents, sex trafficking and drug dealers.]



This story originally appeared in San Diego Union-Tribune.